

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1 1. (Currently Amended) An electrically power assisting steering apparatus
2 provided with a torque limiter having a ring member for applying elastic force
3 mounted between a worm wheel and an output shaft, ~~being characterized in that~~
4 wherein said output shaft is made of iron material, a gear portion of said worm wheel
5 is made of synthetic resin material, and a core metal portion of said worm wheel is
6 made of metallic material whose specific gravity is ~~small~~ smaller than that of said iron
7 material and whose coefficient of linear thermal expansion is ~~large with respect to~~
8 larger than that of said iron material whereby ~~limit torque of said torque limiter is set~~
9 ~~low under high temperature and high~~ a change in spacing between said worm wheel
10 and said output shaft as a result of differential thermal expansion operates to change a
11 limit torque of said torque limiter from a lower value under high temperature to a
12 higher value under low temperature.

1 2. (Original) An electrically power assisting steering apparatus provided with
2 a worm wheel for transmitting driving force of a motor as auxiliary steering force
3 together with a worm gear, being characterized in that said worm wheel is formed by
4 joining a thin synthetic resin to an entire outer peripheral surface of a teeth portion of
5 a gear-shaped core metal by way of chemical bond according to composite molding
6 technique or adhesive.

1 3. (Original) An electrically power assisting steering apparatus according to
2 claim 2, wherein said core metal is made of aluminum alloy or copper alloy.

1 4. (New) An electrically power assisting steering apparatus comprising:
2 a worm wheel,
3 an output shaft, and
4 a torque limiter comprising a ring member for applying elastic force;
5 wherein said ring member is mounted between said worm wheel and said
6 output shaft, and
7 wherein said output shaft is made of a first metal material, a gear portion of
8 said worm wheel is made of synthetic resin material, and a core metal portion of said
9 worm wheel is made of a second metal material whose specific gravity is smaller than
10 that of said first metal material, and whose coefficient of linear thermal expansion is
11 larger than a coefficient of linear thermal expansion of said first metal material,
12 whereby a limit torque of said torque limiter will vary based upon an
13 operating temperature of said steering apparatus.

1 5. (New) An electrically power assisting steering apparatus according to
2 claim 4, wherein said core metal is an aluminum alloy or a copper alloy.

1 6. (New) An electrically power assisting steering apparatus according to
2 claim 5, wherein said output shaft is constructed of iron material.